

REMARKS

Claims 21-33 are all the claims presently pending.

The Examiner rejects the claims for anticipation in view of Miyashita, and for obviousness over Miyashita in view of Miyata.

The foregoing prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. Applicants submit herewith a verified English language translation of one of the Japanese priority documents, JP 8-12113 (JP '113), which was filed in Japan on January 26, 1996, and therefore antedates Miyashita which has a U.S. filing date of April 3, 1996. JP '113 is believed to provide full support for each and every pending claim in this application. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that Miyashita is not available as prior art against the instant application. Since Miyashita is not available as prior art, the rejections of claims 21-33 should be withdrawn, and this application should be passed to issue at the earliest possible time.

If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/606,182

ART UNIT 2861
Q76316

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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